

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1408842-000

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WFO 89-506

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Page 241 ~ Duplicate;

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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- ☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

- ☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- ☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ E F T O
☐ CLEAR

Date 6/6/77

Assoc. Dir.	b6
Dep. AD Adm.	b7C
Dep. AD Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. S.	
Crim. I.	
Fin. &	
Ident.	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Plan. & Insp.	
Rec. Mgnt.	
Spec. Inv.	
Tech. Servs.	
Training	
Public Affs. Off.	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO (89-506) (P)

CHANGED I.O.

Unsub, aka

CAS-IOHTC-Extortion
(00:WFO)

Title marked changed to delete names of victims, in view of the number of individuals victimized and to add [redacted] Title previously carried as Unsub, aka, [redacted]

ReBuairtel to Albany and all offices dated 5/12/77 WFO teletype to Bureau dated 5/31/77

For information of all office; numerous divisions have recently furnished additional information indicating that [redacted] is the same person using the name of [redacted] All offices are requested to furnish WFO with original FD-302's on the interviews conducted in this matter.

7 JUN 13 1977

To date, similar calls have been received by Alexandria, Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Los Angeles, Newark, New Orleans, Norfolk, Omaha, Philadelphia, San Francisco, St. Louis and Washington Field. In each case, caller identified himself

- ②-Bureau
2-All offices
2-WFO

GNF:lmg
(106)

XEROX

JUN 16 1977

Approved:

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

70 JUN 29 1977

62-109276-1
RECORDED COPY FILED IN
b6
b7C

b6
b7C

WFO 89-506

as [REDACTED] and gave fictitious New Orleans and Los Angeles address. In every call, unknown subject (UNSUB) made references to KENNEDY assassination and/or MARTIN LUTHER KING assassination and has threatened to kill the person to whom he was attempting to place the call with. It is noted that each victim has been a well known public figure whose names are commonly seen in newspapers and magazines. To date no information has been received indicating [REDACTED] has personally appeared at FBI offices involved; however, in many cases [REDACTED] has attempted to make appointments with some of the individuals contacted. LA CA

On May 26, 1977, FBI Headquarters received information from the Jacksonville Division that a similar case had been worked in which an individual by the name of [REDACTED] had made statements to the same effect regarding the KING and KENNEDY assassination. b6 b7C

An indices check at Washington Field [REDACTED] Washington Field file 9-4070 captioned [REDACTED] EXTORTION. [REDACTED] b6 b7C

of that file revealed the following:

A stage play in Washington, D. C. [REDACTED] [REDACTED] received a number of threats from [REDACTED] an individual identifying himself as [REDACTED] following day, another call was received from an individual identifying himself as [REDACTED] at which time he advised that he was going to kill [REDACTED] A number of additional calls were made by this same individual again identifying himself as [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

The above phone number was called by an associate of [REDACTED] who spoke with a woman who identified herself as [REDACTED] and she described [REDACTED] as a "sick person" and advised that he had just been released from the hospital. She identified [REDACTED] as a friend.

WFO 89-506

On January 5, 1977, New Rochelle interviewed [] who advised that [] was living at home and had recently been released from Gracie Square Hospital, New York City (NYC), about two months ago, where he had been committed by them.

In view of [] mental instability, no interview was conducted.

An airtel dated August 26, 1976, from Director to SAC, Albany, and all offices entitle [] ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY, DALLAS, TEXAS," advised as follows:

[] has used the same method of operation (MO) in which he alleges involvement or information pertaining to the KENNEDY assassinations. It also states that [] has a penchant for calling long distance and talking with persons whose names he has seen in the newspaper. It should also be mentioned that one of the addresses used in captioned case, [] case.

On May 27, 1977, contact with SA [] U.S. Secret Service advised that their organization has maintained files on [] for some time and is classified as a "nut" caller. [] advised that a check of U.S. Secret Service records reflect that [] was last arrested on March 16, 1977, by Nassau County Police, for threatening a hostage who was released from the Hanafi takeover in WDC.

[] further stated that in November, 1975, [] contacted various police departments and individuals throughout the country, advising that he was involved with the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING and JOHN F. KENNEDY. Other information developed was that [] would periodically call the White House and ask for the President, or call other distinguished individuals such as EDWARD KENNEDY, SUSAN FORD, RICHARD NIXON, ETC.. [] was interviewed by U.S. Secret Service and admitted making the calls.

WFO 89-506

On May 27, 1977, SA [redacted]
[redacted] advised their NYC Office of the information per-
taining to [redacted] and requested that U.S. Secret Service
Agents be present at the time [redacted] was interviewed.

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b7C

The following individuals have been victimized
by captioned individual:

April 23, 1977, [redacted]

April 25, 1977, [redacted]

April 29, 1977, MURRAY FROMSON (Los Angeles).

May 5, 1977, [redacted]

b6
b7C

May 6, 1977, [redacted]

May 7, 1977, [redacted]

May 9, 1977, [redacted]

May 11, 1977, [redacted]

May 12, 1977, [redacted]

May 13, 1977, [redacted]

May 14, 1977, [redacted]

WFO 89-506

May 17, 1977, [REDACTED]

b6
b7c

May 19, 1977, [REDACTED]

May 20, 1977, [REDACTED]

May 22, 1977, [REDACTED]

May 23, 1977, [REDACTED]

May 25, 1977, [REDACTED]

Washington Field is awaiting the results of interview of [REDACTED] and will advise all offices of the information. Washington Field has also obtained subpoena for toll records on [REDACTED]

All offices involved should disseminate above information to interested police departments and insure that WFO receives copies of all correspondence in this matter.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

☐ Teletype
☐ Facsimile
☒ Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

☐ Immediate
☐ Priority
☐ Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

☐ TOP SECRET
☐ SECRET
☐ CONFIDENTIAL
☐ E F T O
☐ CLEAR

Date 6/17/77

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI
 FROM: ADIC, LOS ANGELES (9-6086)
 RE: IRVING GROSSMAN, aka
 Basil Cornfield;
 ET AL
 CAS - IOHTC;
 EXTORTION
 OO: Washington Field

Re Washington Field teletype to Bureau dated
 6/14/77.

Enclosed for Washington Field are originals
 and one copy each of FD-302's listed below. Also, enclosed
 for Boston is one copy each of listed FD-302's:

1. MURRAY FROMSON, 4/29/77.



REC-36

89-3924-66

7 JUN 23 1977

② - Bureau
 2 - Boston (Encl. 9)
 2 - Washington Field (Encl. 18)
 2 - Los Angeles
 RAM/aml

(8)

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 b7C

b6
 b7C

A

Transmitted _____
 (Number) (Time)

Per _____

LA 9-6086

Also, enclosed is one original insert reflecting information furnished by the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) on 4/29/77, for Washington Field with one copy for Boston.

On 6/15/77, Assistant U. S. Attorney [redacted] [redacted] Los Angeles, declined prosecution of subject at Los Angeles, inasmuch as prosecution would be best pursued by Boston.

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b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

b6
b7c

REPORTING OFFICE BOSTON	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BOSTON	DATE 6-14-77	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 6/2-10/77
TITLE OF CASE <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>		REPORT MADE BY SA <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 1.2em;"></div>	TYPED BY po'b
		CHARACTER OF CASE AFO - EXTORTION	

REFERENCE: Washington Field Office teletype to Boston,
dated 6-2-77.

New Rochelle teletype to Bureau, Boston, and
Washington Field, dated 6-2-77. -53

Washington Field Office teletype to Bureau and
Boston dated 6-6-77. -61

Boston teletypes to Bureau, New Rochelle, and
Washington Field dated 6/3, 7, 9, 10/77.

- P -

54 51 56 74

3A
 JUN 17 1977
 FBI - BOSTON

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
							PENDING OVER 90 DAYS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE

COPIES MADE:

- 3- Bureau (Encs. 2) **ENCLOSURE**
 1-USA, Boston, Mass.
 1-U. S. Secret Service,
 Cambridge, Mass.
 1-New Rochelle, N. Y. RA (Info)
 2-Washington Field (89-506)
 2-Boston (89-200)

*One fingerprint card &
 photo attached and
 photo detached in
 6-24-77*

89-3924-

JUN 23 1977

1-33
 DE-55
 18
 126

Dissemination Record of Attached Report

Notations

Agency	1-1		
Request Recd.	1-8885		
Date Fwd.	6-27-77	CL 302 LICE	
How Fwd.	8885		
By	57 JUL 22 1977		

COVER PAGE

DIVISION
 INVESTIGATIVE
 CRIMINAL
 RECEIVED

UNIFORM CR. REP.
 DATA PROCESSING

643-1A-83450-1

b7c

BS 89-200

ENCLOSURES:

TO BUREAU

One (1) Fingerprint Card and
One (1) Photograph of

b6
b7C

LEADS

BOSTON

AT BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS. Will follow and report
prosecutive action, this Division.

NEW ROCHELLE, NEW YORK: (INFORMATION)

Information copy of instant report being furnished
New Rochelle RA inasmuch as subject permanent
address is in the Bronx, N. Y.

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b7C

ADMINISTRATIVE

Additional copy of instant report furnished to Bureau
because of U. S. Secret Service interest in this matter. One
copy disseminated locally to U. S. Secret Service, Cambridge,
Mass., per their request.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1-USA, Boston, Mass. (Attn: AUSA [redacted])
1-U. S. Secret Service, 575 Technology Square, Cambridge, Mass. 02135
Copy to: (Attn: SA [redacted])

b6
b7c

Report of: SA [redacted]
Date: 6-14-77

Office: Boston, Massachusetts

Field Office File #: 89-200

Bureau File #:

Title: [redacted]

Character: ASSAULTING A FEDERAL OFFICER - EXTORTION

Synopsis: Information received at the Boston FBI Office that between 4-23-77 and 5-25-77, numerous individuals throughout the United States were victimized in long-distance telephonic threats to their lives. Information developed within the Jacksonville Division of the FBI that [redacted] of [redacted] might be responsible for the telephone calls. The facts of this case discussed with AUSA, Boston, Mass., who authorized arrest of [redacted] conditionally upon [redacted] being interviewed and admitting telephone calls. [redacted] located in Boston on 6-10-77 by U. S. Secret Service Agents. [redacted] interviewed by FBI Agents and, after being advised of his constitutional rights, furnished a detailed statement admitting numerous telephone calls made from Boston, Mass. and New York to points throughout the United States, threatening to kill prominent persons. [redacted] arrested by BuAgents and charged with violation of Title 18, USC, Section 875(c). [redacted] appeared before U. S. Magistrate PRINCI, Boston, on 6-10-77 and bond was set in the amount of \$100,000 with surety. AUSA, Boston, also motioned court for judicial determination of mental competency. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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- P -

BS 89-200

DETAILS:

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

The investigation of this case was predicated upon receipt of a communication dated June 2, 1977, from the Washington Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation advising that the following individuals and their families have been victimized by long-distance telephonic threats to their lives:

Date

Victim

April 23, 1977

April 25, 1977

April 29, 1977

May 5, 1977

May 6, 1977

May 7, 1977

May 9, 1977

May 11, 1977

May 13, 1977

MURRAY FROMSON, Los Angeles, California

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b7C

BS 89-200

2

b6
b7C

[redacted] said he could not recall whether or not
he made telephone calls to [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] MURRAY FROMSON, Los Angeles:

[redacted]
said he usually makes one or two telephone calls a day and it is
impossible to recall all the people he called.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6-14-771

Special Agent (SA) [redacted] after interviewing [redacted] at the United States Secret Service Office in Cambridge, Massachusetts, arrested [redacted] for violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 875C.

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b7C

After being photographed and fingerprinted, [redacted] was transferred to District One of the Boston Police Department, Boston, Massachusetts, to be incarcerated, pending his appearance before the United States Magistrate.

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b7C

Interviewed on 6-10-77 at Cambridge, Massachusetts File # Boston 89-200

SAs [redacted]

13

6-10-77

b6
b7C

by [redacted] Date dictated _____

BS 89-200

On June 10, 1977, a complaint charging [REDACTED] with violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 875C was signed by SA [REDACTED] before United States Magistrate PETER W. PRINCI, Boston.

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b7C

On June 10, 1977, [REDACTED] appeared before United States Magistrate PETER W. PRINCI, at which time bond in the amount of \$100,000 with surety was set. At this time Assistant United States Attorney [REDACTED] submitted a motion for judicial determination of mental competency under the provisions of Title 18, United States Code, Section 4244.

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IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT SUBJECT [REDACTED] MADE NUMEROUS TELEPHONE CALLS IN INTERSTATE COMMERCE CONTAINING THREATS TO KILL THE PERSONS HE CALLED AND THEIR FAMILIES, SUBJECT [REDACTED] SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20535

DATE: JULY 27, 1977

TO: SAC, HOUSTON (9-1890)

Re: UNSUB: aka [redacted] ect;
CAS - IOHTC - EXTORTION
OO: WFO

b6
b7C

Invoice of Contents

EVIDENCE

ONE EA. MICROCASSETTE
MAILED 7

JUL 27 1977

FBI

Special Instructions:

Mail Room: Show shipment date and registry number.
Shipping Room: Show shipment date; bill of lading number;
initial invoice; return to Section checked in block; after
initialing in block [redacted] placed in administrative file.

EVIDENCE

EVIDENCE

☐ Crypt.-Trans..
☐ Document
☐ P & C
☒ Radio Engineering
☐ LFPS

715654

FBI File No. 89-3924
E-4811TV

"VIA REGISTERED MAIL RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED"

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE BOSTON	OFFICE OF ORIGIN BOSTON	DATE 8-17-77	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 6-14-77 - 8-17-77
TITLE OF CASE [REDACTED] aka [REDACTED]		REPORT MADE BY SA [REDACTED]	TYPE b6 b7C ISS
		CHARACTER OF CASE AFO - EXTORTION	

REFERENCE: Report of SA [REDACTED] at Boston
dated 6-14-77. (P)

ENCLOSURES: Enclosed for the Detroit and Indianapolis Divisions is one xerox copy each of referenced report.

LEADSDETROITAT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Will forward to the Boston Division FD-302's reflecting details regarding the threatening telephone calls to [REDACTED]

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO

APPROVED

SPECIAL AGENT
IN CHARGE

DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW

COPIES MADE:

- 2-Bureau
2-Detroit (9-3519) (Enc.1)
2-Indianapolis (Enc.1)
2-WFO (89-506)
1-USA, Boston, Mass. (ATTN: AUSA [REDACTED])
2-Boston (89-200)

89-3924-77 REC-26

EX-132

AUG 22 1977

Dissemination Record of Attached Report				Notations
Agency	1-USSS			
Request Recd.	8-29-77			
Date Fwd.	8/29/77			
How Fwd.	1524			
By	5 007	5 197		

ASXII
UNIFORM EX. REP.
DATA PROCESSING

BS 89-200

Detroit on 5-23-77.

INDIANAPOLIS

AT ANDERSON, INDIANA

Will forward to Boston, FD-302's reflecting details regarding the threatening telephone calls made to [REDACTED] on 5-15-77, and 5-16-77.

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b7C

BOSTON

AT BOSTON, MASS.

Will determine exact dates that [REDACTED] resided at Essex House, Harvard House, Beacon Hotel and the rooming house at 71 Marlboro Street.

Will follow and report prosecutive action this division.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1-USA, Boston, Massachusetts (ATTN: AUSA [REDACTED])

b6
b7c

Report of: SA [REDACTED]

Office: Boston, Massachusetts

Date: August 17, 1977

Field Office File #: 89-200

Bureau File #:

Title: [REDACTED]

Character: ASSAULTING A FEDERAL OFFICER - EXTORTION

Synopsis:

Investigation reflecting threatening telephone calls made by [REDACTED] to victims throughout the U.S. during the months of May through June, 1977, set forth.
ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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b7c

(P)

Details:

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b7c

'In' Inns

New Small Hotels Thrive Among Giants in Cities By Emphasizing Personal Service and Intimacy

By HARLAN S. BYRNE

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

A Chicago executive found himself in a mob of convention goers at an 1,800-room New York hotel. It took him 90 minutes to check in, he says, and 15 minutes to squeeze into a crowded elevator, only to find then that his room wasn't ready.

"After a hard day and a rough trip, who needs that?" he asks. So nowadays when he is in New York, the executive stays at a much smaller hotel, where he gets much better service.

It's for the likes of the Chicago executive that elegant small hotels are enjoying a rebirth in the U.S., as an alternative to the big chain establishments. Small hotels traditionally flourished outside the big cities, and the 1936 Rodgers and Hart song "There's a Small Hotel" helped to romanticize them. (Although an inn in New Jersey says it was the one lyricist Lorenz Hart had in mind, Richard Rodgers's autobiography, "Easy Stages," says the hotel in the song was just "an idealized country inn.")

Today's new, small hotels, however, are being opened in major cities, sometimes right in the midsts of their giant competitors. Owners of the new hotels say they are seeking to emulate the fine little hotels of Europe, and they often advertise the "European style" of their places.

An Acquired Taste

A few small hotels like the Algonquin in New York have long been preferred by many travelers, including celebrities such as actors and authors. As the taste is being acquired by business executives and others tired of the bustle and impersonality of many big hotels, the new genre is benefiting.

The better little hotels can provide the intimacy and decor that usually aren't practical for most large hotels. If properly located, a small hotel can make up for the lack of shops or other conveniences of a large one. The main selling point of most small hotels is the personal attention they give to guests at prices competitive with the better large hotels.

"I go out of my way to get into a small hotel," says E. T. Collinsworth Jr., president of Bliss & Laughlin Industries, a Chicago steel-products company. "I like the personal feeling of having the hotel manager or other employees call me by name." A Chicago hotelman suggests that executives like the one-to-one relationship they can have with the manager of a small hotel. "That's the way they're used to doing business."

By and large, the new little hotels seem to be succeeding. Hotels with 300 rooms or less usually enjoy higher-than-average occupancy rates and become profitable quicker than large new hotels, their owners say. It's hard to document the trend, as industry statistics don't distinguish one hotel from another. But examples abound of entrepreneurs who are providing the trend.

Among the Giants

Consider Chicago's plush North Michigan Avenue area, which is dotted with such fine luxury hotels as the Drake, the Ritz-Carlton and the Astor Tower. Into their midst came John B. Coleman, a 41-year-old real-estate developer. Three years ago he opened the 200-room Whitehall Hotel and leased it to Lex Group Services Ltd. of London. Last fall, he opened the adjoining 140-room Tremont Hotel, which is managed by Trust Houses Forte Ltd. of London. Both hotels were renovated from old residential buildings.

"Converting old buildings costs about half what new construction would be," Mr. Coleman says, and he adds he is considering similar ventures in Washington, D.C., and other large cities.

Whitehall's amenities rank the place among better hotels. There's a concierge to fetch theater tickets and perform other chores for guests, an unpacking service and hair dryers for women. A history is kept on repeat guests to ensure that Irving Wallace, the author, has a typewriter in his room, or that an entertainer has his favorite brand of Scotch whisky awaiting his arrival. One executive insists on a bed board for his aching back. The Whitehall provides strict privacy upon request (callers are told the guest isn't registered). The Tremont is operated similarly, but with fewer flourishes—and a starting room rate that's \$17 under the Whitehall's \$59 minimum.

Mr. Coleman isn't alone in converting older properties. Two such conversions have been masterminded by Philip Pistilli, president of the Alameda Plaza, a 400-room luxury hotel in Kansas City. "We're looking at properties in other cities; I'm negotiating now to buy one," Mr. Pistilli says.

A Rechristening

Six years ago, Mr. Pistilli's company acquired the aging Fielding Hotel in San Francisco, next door to the Hotel St. Francis. Once renovated, the Fielding was rechristened the Raphael, after a Paris hotel, and set up with European-type services. The 150-room Raphael has been profitable the past four years, and occupancy has been averaging above 90%.

The Alameda, which is owned by J. C. Nichols Co., later acquired an apartment building across the street in Kansas City, renovated it and opened it as a 120-room Raphael Hotel in September 1975. Both Raphaels use the slogan, "A Little Elegant Hotel." The Kansas City Raphaels became profitable within a year. Mr. Pistilli produces copies of letters from newspaper and television executives, lavishly praising the Kansas City Raphael for the way they were treated during the Republican National Convention last summer.

In Philadelphia's Rittenhouse Square area, a 50-year-old luxury apartment building was overhauled and opened five years ago as the Latham Hotel. Stressing personal service and a home-like atmosphere, the Latham has achieved the highest occupancy rate of Philadelphia downtown hotels. E. Barnett Steinmetz, managing director, claims.

In Beverly Hills, Calif., Max H. Baril has succeeded with a new, small hotel, the Beverly Rodeo. It is, in fact, a new building, but well-known luxury hotels as the Beverly Hills, the Beverly Wilshire and the Bel-Air. The 100-room Beverly Rodeo was opened four years ago after Mr. Baril took over a faltering hotel and refurbished it.

"A Little Gem"

"We've put a lot of effort into greeting people by name and making them feel at home," says Mr. Baril. His advertising slogan: "Among the riches of Beverly Hills is a little gem of a hotel."

Preferring to build from scratch is Morris G. Levy Jr., a Minneapolis hotel operator. Two years ago, Mr. Levy opened L'Hotel Sofitel in a Minneapolis suburb not far from the airport. The 300-room Sofitel, Mr. Levy boasts, is the "first French hotel" in the U.S., with such touches as a French-speaking telephone operator, an excellent restaurant and perhaps the only bidets in Minneapolis.

Mr. Levy has a franchise agreement with the Sofitel hotel chain in Europe authorizing him to seek franchisees in other U.S. cities. Mr. Levy would participate in any franchise fees paid to Sofitel. The chain apparently hopes to capitalize on increasing travel by Europeans in the U.S. Operators of other little hotels believe they also are benefiting from more travel by foreigners accustomed to staying in small hotels. One large hotel chain, Hyatt International Corp., last year made a bid for this market by opening the elegant 225-room United Nations Plaza Hotel in New York. A Hyatt official says business is excellent.

The Lure of Fine Food

Fine cuisine is often an attraction at small hotels. At the 100-room Pontchartrain Hotel in New Orleans, a Chicago executive says he keeps coming back for such dishes as trout veronique, which is lightly poached and covered with grapes and the Pontchartrain's own glazed hollandaise sauce. Lysle Aschaffenburg, the owner, says food-and-beverage business is about double rental revenue. He says the hotel's accommodations compare favorably with the best hotels, and the Pontchartrain's rooms are filled most week nights.

Mr. Coleman of Chicago has been fortunate because the Whitehall purchase included the highly regarded Whitehall Club Restaurant. At the Tremont, he teamed up with operators of New York's 21 Club, in opening Crickets, the hotel's restaurant. Crickets has helped Mr. Coleman make the Tremont a focal point for Chicago social life.

Hotelmen generally agree the success of a small luxury hotel can be promoted by the support of the upper-class residents of the area. They can influence, through both personal and business contacts, where a lot of travelers will stay. Word-of-mouth advertising by satisfied guests is perhaps even more important. Small hotels need it because they can't come close to matching the advertising budgets of big hotel chains.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Date of transcription

5/4/77

MURRAY FROMSON was contacted at his place of employment, Columbia Broadcasting System (CBS), 7800 Beverly Boulevard, at FROMSON's request. FROMSON thereafter furnished the following information:

FROMSON stated at approximately 11:30 AM that morning [redacted] had received a telephone call from a man identifying himself as [redacted] FROMSON advised that immediately after this call, [redacted] contacted him and advised him of the contents in that [redacted] had stated to [redacted] that he knew about or was involved with the MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. and JOHN F. KENNEDY assassinations. This caller further stated he desired to surrender to Mr. FROMSON at 2:00 PM Saturday April 30, 1977, at FROMSON's Los Angeles home. [redacted] advised [redacted] that the caller indicated that if FROMSON did not help him, he would kill FROMSON.

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FROMSON advised that [redacted] further related to him that the caller stated he read about FROMSON in "Money" magazine and that he resided at 215 New Orleans Drive, New Orleans, Louisiana.

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FROMSON stated about 11:45 AM, he received a call at work from an individual identifying himself as [redacted]

[redacted] FROMSON advised that this individual made statements identical to the ones related to him by [redacted] concerning the 11:30 AM call. FROMSON advised that the caller stated he knew about what was involved in the MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. and JOHN F. KENNEDY assassinations and desired to surrender himself to FROMSON at 2:00 PM the following day. FROMSON advised, however, that the caller did not threaten to kill him. FROMSON advised he was only able to ask the caller one question, and asked him why he had selected him to surrender to, and the caller stated, "Because I like you."

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Interviewed on 4/29/77 at Los Angeles, California File # Los Angeles 9-6086-6

SA [redacted]

by

Date dictated 5/3/77

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LA 9-6086

FROMSON advised that when the call first came through, he put the caller on hold for a few seconds while he notified the Los Angeles Police Department in an effort to get the call traced. FROMSON further stated that when he went back on the line to talk to the caller, FROMSON's [REDACTED] listened in on the call. FROMSON described the caller as being a white male, approximately age 50 with an Eastern accent, who sounded very calm and casual. FROMSON stated it was his opinion the call was long distance due to static and noises on the line. He further stated that he thought he would be able to recognize the voice again.

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FROMSON advised that a photograph and career biography regarding himself did appear in the April 1977 issue of "Money" magazine. He further stated his home address and number was published in the 1976 issue of the Los Angeles Telephone Directory but that the 1977 edition contained only his first initial, last name, and telephone number.

FROMSON provided the following descriptive data:

Name	MURRAY FROMSON
Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of Birth	September 1, 1929
Height	5'7½"
Weight	163 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Hazel
Address	1407 Beckwith Avenue Los Angeles, California 90049
Home Telephone	451-1110
Business Telephone	651-2345, extension 2202
Occupation	Correspondent, Columbia Broadcasting System 15 years

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LA 9-6086



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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE WASHINGTON FIELD	OFFICE OF ORIGIN WASHINGTON FIELD	DATE 8/18/77	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/25/77 - 6/10/77
TITLE OF CASE <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 80px; width: 100%;"></div>		REPORT MADE BY SA <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 150px; height: 20px;"></div>	TYPED BY <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 40px; height: 20px;"></div>
		CHARACTER OF CASE AFO - EXTORTION	b6 b7C
REFERENCE: Boston report of SA <div style="border: 1px solid black; display: inline-block; width: 100px; height: 20px;"></div> dated, 6/14/77.			

ADMINISTRATIVE:

For Bureau information for the sake of continuity, the information is referenced report pertaining to the arrest of has also been included in this report.

Information copy being sent to New Rochelle in view of subject's permanent residence.

LEADS:

WASHINGTON FIELD

AT WASHINGTON, D.C. Will present facts to AUSA, WDC, and request that this matter be handled in Boston.

Will submit airtel to Bureau requesting Boston be designated as office of origin.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED					<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NONE	ACQUITTALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	PRETRIAL DIVERSION	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
							PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW
COPIES MADE 2 - BU 1 - USA, Washington, D.C. 3 - Boston (89-200) (1-USA, Boston) 1-New York (INFO) 2 - WFO (1-U.S. Secret Service, WDC)							89-3934-811 14 SEP 7 1977 REC-33
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency	Request Recd.					UNIFORM CR. REP. DATA PROCESSING	
Date Fwd.							
How Fwd.							
By							

53 SEP 21 1977

COVER PAGE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to: 1 - USA, Washington, D.C.

Report of: SA [REDACTED]

Date: 8/18/77

Office: Washington, D.C.

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Field Office File #: 89-506

Bureau File #:

Title: [REDACTED]

Character: ASSAULTING A FEDERAL OFFICER - EXTORTION

Synopsis: Between 4/23/77 and 6/8/77, numerous individuals throughout the United States were victimized in long distance telephone calls from captioned subject. In each case subject identified himself as [REDACTED] and gave fictitious New Orleans and Los Angeles addresses. In every call subject made references to KENNEDY and/or KING assassination and threatened to kill the person to whom he was speaking with. Each victim was a well known public figure whose name commonly appeared in newspapers and magazines. The following Field Divisions conducted investigation or received complaints from victims. Alexandria, Butte, Chicago, Cleveland, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Indianapolis, Jacksonville, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, Newark, New Haven, New York, Norfolk, Omaha, Phoenix, Philadelphia, San Francisco, St. Louis and WFO. Information from Jacksonville Division revealed [REDACTED] might be responsible for calls. On 6/10/77, [REDACTED] interviewed by Boston Agents and admitted to making threatening calls. [REDACTED] arrested and charged with Title 18, USC, Section 875(c). AUSA Boston filed motion for judicial determination of mental competency. Alexandria, Chicago, Denver, Houston, Jacksonville, Indianapolis, Newark, Norfolk, Omaha and Phoenix Divisions advised that USA's office would decline prosecution in view of subject's arrest in Boston.
ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

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P -

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D.C.

LOS ANGELES

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MURRAY FROMSON..... 92

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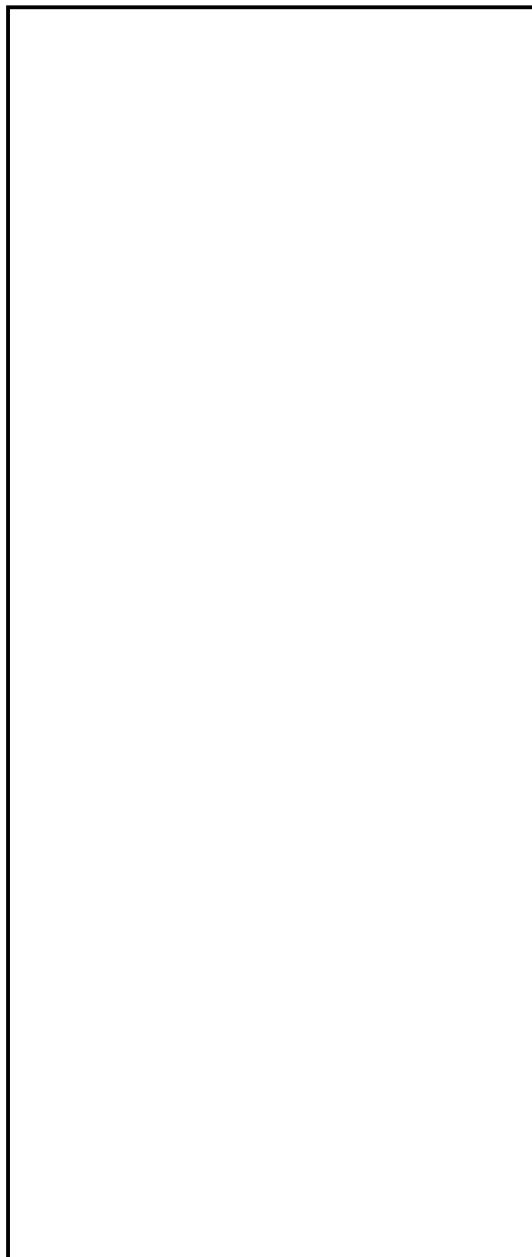
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WFO 89-506

DETAILS: AT ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA

WFO 89-506

AT BUTTE, MONTANA

WFO 89-506

AT CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

WFO 89-506

[REDACTED]

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On June 24, 1977, facts regarding captioned matter were presented to Assistant United States Attorney [REDACTED] Chicago. He advised that he would decline prosecution in this matter due to the fact that there is prosecution pending against subject in another district.

WFO 89-506

AT CLEVELAND, OHIO

WFO 89-506

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

WFO 89-506

AT DENVER, COLORADO

WFO 89-506

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN

WFO 89-506

AT HOUSTON, TEXAS

WFO 89-506

[REDACTED]

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The facts of this case were discussed with Assistant United States Attorney (AUSA) [REDACTED] on June 15, 1977, after which he stated he declines prosecution in the Houston area. AUSA [REDACTED] pointed out that it would be more appropriate to prosecute in Boston, where the subject is located.

WFO 89-506

AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

WFO 89-506

[REDACTED]

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On June 17, 1977, Assistant United States Attorney [REDACTED] SDI, declined prosecution in favor of prosecution in Washington, D. C.

WFO 89-506

AT JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA.

WFO 89-506

AT LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

WFO 89-506

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

WFO 89-506

[REDACTED]

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MURRAY FROMSON advised on April 29, 1977, and verified this date, that caller, who threatened him on April 29, 1977, is described as a white male, approximately 50 years old with an eastern accent. FROMSON further advised this individual sounded very calm and casual.

[REDACTED] who also received a call on April 29, 1977, described caller as a white male with a huskey, possibly Jewish accent, who could be in his late 40's or early 50's. [REDACTED] stated the caller sounded calm and serious. Both FROMSON and [REDACTED] have advised that they believe they would recognize this voice again.

WFO 89-506

AT MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN"

WFO 89-506

AT NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

WFO 89-506

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On June 16, 1977, Assistant United States Attorney [redacted] Newark, New Jersey, declined prosecution in favor of action by the Office of the United States Attorney in Boston, Massachusetts.

WFO 89-506

AT NEW HAVEN CONNECTICUT

WFO 89-506

AT NEW YORK CITY, NEW YORK

WFO 89-506

AT NORFOLK, VIRGINIA

WFO 89-506

[REDACTED]

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The facts of this matter were presented to AUSA
[REDACTED] EDVA, Norfolk, Virginia, on June 21, 1977.
AUSA [REDACTED] declined prosecution in view of this matter being
handled at Boston, Massachusetts, where Federal prosecution is
currently outstanding for similar type calls.

WFO 89-506

AT OMAHA, NEBRASKA

WFO 89-506

[REDACTED]

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This matter was discussed with AUSA [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] SDI, Des Moines, Iowa, on June 15, 1977.
Based on the facts presented, AUSA [REDACTED] declined
prosecution in the SDI in favor of prosecution in Boston
or Washington, D.C.

WFO 89-506

AT PHOENIX, ARIZONA

WFO 89-506



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On June 15, 1977, AUSA, Phoenix, Arizona,
advised he would decline prosecution of captioned subject
since this matter can best be handled in Boston.

WFO 89-506

AT PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

WFO 89-506

AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

WFO 89-506

AT SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

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